

Appln No. 09/684,859


Amdt date March 12, 2004

Reply to Office action of November 14, 2003

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE



A system and method for continuously monitoring and updating delivery schedules based on completed deliveries and customer modifications made by the customers. A delivery scheduling computer ~~electronically~~ stores and updates delivery schedule information. ~~Prior to a scheduled delivery, notifying the delivery scheduling computer notifies the customer prior to a scheduled delivery of an estimated time of the delivery.~~ The notification is made to a customer's PC, browser-based client, hand-held computer or set-top box, or by ~~conventional~~ communication methods ~~may also be utilized~~ such as a telephone, pager, or cellular phone. If the customer desires to ~~make a change to the delivery, such as the time of the delivery or the delivery location of the delivery,~~ the customer transmits a delivery change request and ~~the delivery schedule is then~~ modified accordingly. Employees ~~use~~ receive ~~updated delivery schedule information through a hand-held computer.~~ Alternatively, the employee ~~uses or~~ a browser-based client ~~to log onto a central computer to receive updated delivery schedule information, as well as to view the updated schedule.~~ Upon ~~completion of a scheduled delivery, the employee uses the hand-held computer or browser based client to transmit a delivery completion message to the delivery scheduling computer.~~ The ~~delivery completion~~ message includes an actual delivery time which the delivery scheduling computer uses to update the estimated delivery times of the remaining deliveries.